

RESOLUTION NO. RS2019-1693

A resolution recognizing the 70th anniversary of the Nashville Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity.

WHEREAS, Sigma Alpha Iota is an International Music Fraternity that was formed to promote and further music in America and throughout the world. The national organization continues to provide musical and educational resources to its members and the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Nashville Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota was chartered January 16, 1949, primarily by the alumnae of the Iota Phi Chapter at George Peabody College (Vanderbilt University). They are longtime supporters of Nashville Public Television, Nashville Public Radio, and the Nashville Symphony; and

WHEREAS, as an organization, they have participated in many music-related activities in the Nashville community from the city-wide Christmas Carol Festival in the late 50s, to volunteering with educational efforts geared towards young people with the Nashville Symphony. The Nashville Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota has long worked to promote music in Music City; and

WHEREAS, members have been volunteering at the Nashville Symphony's Petting Zoo, part of the Family Series concerts, for several years. As families arrive for the concert, the volunteers introduce them to various instruments provided by the Symphony, and attempt to get the children to interact, touch, and even play the instruments that they will hear in the concert. Several members also perform in the Symphony choir; and

WHEREAS, they partnered with Cresswell Middle School of the Arts in 2011, 2012, and 2013, organizing a benefit concert where local Sigma Alpha Iota members and Cresswell students performed. A portion of the proceeds were donated to Cresswell's music department; and

WHEREAS, every year they award two scholarships totaling \$1000 to undergraduate collegiate chapter members within the local province (Lipscomb University, Belmont University, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee State University, and Western Kentucky University); and

WHEREAS, the Nashville Alumnae Chapter is comprised of ladies from different walks of life, not just ladies with a strong background or professional career in music. Some are music educators and others hold various corporate jobs, such as chemists, IT professionals, and healthcare related fields, but the one thing they all have in common is a love of music; and

WHEREAS, some of the Sigma Alpha Iota members include: Nashville's own Mrs. Betty Dunn and Kelly Corcoran, Dolly Parton, Sheryl Crow, Libby Larsen, Jessye Norman, Loretta Long, and first ladies Mrs. Bess Truman, Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower, and Mrs. Thelma Catherine "Pat" Nixon, just to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Sigma Alpha Iota's mission is to encourage, nurture, and support the art of music; and the Nashville Alumnae Chapter hopes to continue to uphold this mission right here in Music City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as recognizing the 70th anniversary of the Nashville Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity.

Section 2. The Metropolitan Council Office is directed to prepare a copy of this Resolution to be presented to Bobbie H. Williams, Chapter President.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

INTRODUCED BY:

Jacobia Dowell
Member of Council